

Memorandum

PREPARED FOR: Oregon State Senate
DATE: September 20, 2023
BY: Leslie Porter, Analyst
RE: Legislative Review of Executive Appointments



BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE OREGON INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

The Governor has appointed the following individual to the Board of Trustees for the Oregon Institute of Technology subject to Senate confirmation.¹

Re-appointee

Michele Vitali of Portland

Term

July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2025

Appointment/Confirmation Authority

[ORS 352.054 \(2021\)](#) and [ORS 352.076 \(2021\)](#)

Statement of Economic Interest²

Not required.

Composition³

The Governor appoints 11 to 15 members (BIRD, CAUBLE, DAVIS, DHIR, EARLY, GENTRY, GOPALPUR, JONES, AMUCHASTEGUI, NUÑEZ-FLORES, STARR), including:⁴

- one student enrolled at the university who is a voting member of the board (WHICHMANN);
- one university faculty member, voting or nonvoting, (NGUYEN);
- one nonfaculty staff, **voting** or nonvoting (**VITALI**); and
- the university president, *ex officio*, nonvoting (NAGANATHAN).

Members serve four-year terms; student, faculty, and nonfaculty staff serve two-year terms; limited to two consecutive terms. The Governor may remove appointed members, but may not more than three within four years, unless for corrupt conduct. Faculty and nonfaculty staff members may not participate in any discussions, action, or sessions concerning collective bargaining issues.

¹ [Or. Const. art. III sect. 4](#), [ORS 171.562](#) and [171.565 \(2021\)](#).

² [ORS 244.050 \(2021\)](#).

³ [ORS 182.100 \(2021\)](#) for affirmative action policy and [ORS 236.115 \(2021\)](#) for diversity criteria.

⁴ [ORS 352.076 \(2021\)](#).

The board selects its chair and vice chair. The board shall adopt bylaws concerning how a quorum is constituted and when a quorum is necessary. The board must meet at least four times per year.

Duties⁵

Oregon's seven public universities have governing boards that:

- provide transparency, public accountability, and support for the university;
- are close to and closely focused on the individual university;
- lead to greater access and affordability for Oregon residents and do not disadvantage Oregon students relative to out-of-state students;
- act in the best interests of the university and the State of Oregon; and
- promote academic success in support of all education beyond high school.

The governing board of each university must:

- adopt the university budget;
- in consultation with the Governor, appoint and supervise a university president;
- establish a process for determining tuition and mandatory enrollment fees;
- have custody and control of all real and personal property used;
- ensure collateral to secure funds on deposit;
- adopt standards governing employees' outside employment and activities;
- provide group insurance and deferred compensation plans to employees;
- adopt standards for the alcohol and drug abuse policy and implementation plan;
- exempt a student who is not a citizen or lawful permanent resident, or financially dependent on a person who is not a citizen or lawful permanent resident, from paying nonresident tuition and fees under specified conditions; and
- adopt standards for the administration of statutes.

The governing board of each university may:

- manage revenue derived from tuition and mandatory enrollment fees;
- regulate traffic and parking on university property;
- establish a police department;
- commission special campus security officers;
- sell forest products and conduct forestland management research projects;
- undertake the construction of any building or structure for higher education;
- adopt standards governing access to certain personnel records; and
- contract with the U.S. Armed Forces for education to active members.

⁵ [ORS 352.025 and 352.313 \(2021\)](#).



Oregon Institute of Technology, Board of Trustees of the

Agency: **Education, Oregon Department of**

Authorization: **ORS 352.076**

Min Members: **11** Max Members: **14**

Term Length: **4** Term Limit: **2**

Senate Confirmation Required?: **Yes**

Policy Area: **Regional Solutions**

Board Admin: **Dr. Ken Fincher**

Address:

Oregon Institute of Technology

3201 Campus Drive

Klamath Falls, OR 97601

541-885-1118

ken.finch@oit.edu

Current Appointments

Dhir, Vijay

At-Large

Position Number: **1**

Term(s): **7/1/2023 - 6/30/2027**

Wichmann, Mason

Student

Position Number: **2**

Term(s): **9/28/2022 - 6/30/2024**

Mr Gopalpur, Chandrakanth "Kanth" C

At-Large

Position Number: **3**

Term(s): **7/1/2022 - 6/30/2026**

Ms Vitali, Michele

Staff (voting)

Position Number: **4**

Term(s): **7/1/2023 - 6/30/2025**
7/1/2021 - 6/30/2023
10/1/2020 - 6/30/2021

Gentry, Don

At-Large

Position Number: **5**

Term(s): **7/1/2023 - 6/30/2027**

Amuchastegui, Cecilia "Cec"

At-Large

Position Number: **6**

Term(s): **7/1/2023 - 6/30/2027**

Ms Núñez-Flores, Celia

At-Large

Position Number: **10**

Term(s): **7/1/2022 - 6/30/2026**
7/1/2018 - 6/30/2022
9/19/2014 - 6/30/2018

Mr Starr, Michael "Mike" A

At-Large

Position Number: **7**

Term(s): **7/1/2022 - 6/30/2026**
12/17/2018 - 6/30/2022

Nguyen, Phong Faculty Position Number: 8	Term(s):	9/28/2022 - 6/30/2024
Mr Davis, John C At-Large Position Number: 9	Term(s):	7/1/2022 - 6/30/2026
Mr Jones, Vincent At-Large Position Number: 11	Term(s):	7/1/2022 - 6/30/2026 7/1/2018 - 6/30/2022 6/1/2016 - 6/30/2018
Bird, Stefan At-Large Position Number: 12	Term(s):	7/1/2022 - 6/30/2026
Cauble, David At-Large Position Number: 13	Term(s):	7/1/2023 - 6/30/2027
Dr. Early II, Johnnie At-Large Position Number: 14	Term(s):	7/1/2023 - 6/30/2027

Vacant Positions